

**DIVISION OF HEALTH PROFESSIONS LICENSURE
BOARD OF REGISTRATION IN DENTISTRY
239 CAUSEWAY STREET, 5TH FLOOR
BOSTON, MA 02114**

INFORMATION FOR FOREIGN TRAINED DENTISTS

In response to your questions regarding licensure, please be advised that as of February 22, 1978 the state of Massachusetts no longer accepts applicants trained in foreign dental schools. All licensees must have received a diploma from a dental school approved by the American Dental Association (ADA) in the United States, Canada, or Puerto Rico, with the exception of Limited License Registrants (see below).

Dental Licensure

Foreign trained dentists may apply for advanced standing at any dental school in the United States that has a program for foreign trained dentists. Usually at least two years of study is required to obtain a degree at an American dental school but the dental school determines how much credit to give to the student for schooling in his or her native country. In addition to the Diploma, licensure requires a completed application, successful completion of National Boards (written examination administered by the ADA), a regional clinical examination administered by the North East Regional Boards (NERB), and a jurisprudence exam given by the Massachusetts Board of Registration in Dentistry.

Limited License Registration

Foreign trained dentists may request limited license registration. All of the duties of a dentist may be performed but only in a hospital, school, or government clinic. Practice in a private office is not permitted. Limited licenses may be obtained for one year for a fee of \$45 and may be renewed for up to five years. Check or money order is acceptable and should be made payable to the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. We do not accept cash. To obtain a list of clinics in Massachusetts send a check for \$4.35 made out to the Commonwealth of Massachusetts to the State House Book Store, Room 116, Boston, MA 02133 and request a copy of the "Directory of Clinics and Laboratories." The phone number is (617) 727-2834. After a position in a clinic is assured, an application may be completed. Only the jurisprudence examination as mentioned above is required.

Dental Hygiene Licensure

To practice as a dental hygienist one must have received a diploma from a dental hygiene program accredited by the American Dental Association. The dental hygiene school may determine how much credit to give a foreign trained dentist for schooling completed in his or her native country.

In addition to the diploma, licensure requires successful completion of dental hygiene counterparts of National and Regional Examinations as mentioned above.

Dental Assisting

Foreign trained dentists may work as “on the job trained” dental assistants. No license or registration is required. However, to take radiographs as a dental assistant it is necessary to send proof of completion of a radiology course. This may be a transcript from the foreign dental school. Once documentation has been received at the Board office, a letter is sent which permits the assistant to take radiographs. Detailed information regarding practicing as a dental assistant and taking radiographs can be found in the Rules and Regulations which can be obtained at the State House Book Store, Room 116, Boston, MA 02133 by sending a check for \$1.65 made out to the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

Dental Laboratory Technicians

Foreign trained dentists may practice as laboratory technicians in a dental laboratory. No license or registration is required.

The Dental Schools in Massachusetts are:

Tufts University School
of Dental Medicine
1 Kneeland St.
Boston, MA 02111

Boston University
School of Graduate Dentistry
100 East Newton St.
Boston, MA 02118

Harvard University School
of Dental Medicine
188 Longwood Ave.
Boston, MA 02115

The Dental Hygiene Schools in Massachusetts are:

Bristol Community College
777 Elsbree Street
Fall River, MA 02721

Cape Cod Community College
Route 132
West Barnstable, MA 02668

Forsyth School of Dental Hygiene
140 The Fenway
Boston, MA 02115

Middlesex Community College
Springs Road
Bedford, MA 01730

Springfield Tech. Community
College
1 Armory Square
Springfield, MA 01105

Quinsigamond Community College
670 W. Boylston Street
Worcester, MA 01606

For schools in other states call the ADA toll free at 1-800-621-8099.

If you have any further questions please call the Dental Board at (617) 727-9928.